

## EPA Official Record

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**Mail ID:** 0d879390cb41432a889fba29e15d7273

**From:** Chalmers, ray

**To:** egan, patrick

**Delivered Date:** 08/15/2013 02:22 PM EDT

**Subject:** RE: Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

Pat,

I don't know of any EPA air regulations applicable to crematoriums. Per a June 2013 National Funeral Directors Association article found at <http://nfda.org/additional-tools-cremation/2631-what-impact-will-the-new-epa-proposal-have-on-crematories.html>, there are no such EPA regulations. I did find general Virginia requirements pertaining to crematoria at <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+reg+18VAC65-20-436>.

Ray

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**From:** egan, patrick

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2013 2:08 PM

**To:** Chalmers, ray

**Subject:** FW: Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

Ray,

Does EPA or the state of Virginia regulate mercury emissions from crematoriums?

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**From:** Butler, John

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2013 1:53 PM

**To:** frankel, michael; egan, patrick

**Cc:** pizarro, luis

**Subject:** RE: Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

We've had pesticide related inquiries from this citizen in the past. Ms. Webb resides in Virginia.

John J. Butler

Regional Pesticide Expert

EPA Region III

Land and Chemicals Division

Pesticides and Asbestos Programs Branch

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Email: [butler.johnj@epa.gov](mailto:butler.johnj@epa.gov)

[www.epa.gov/pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides)

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**From:** frankel, michael  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2013 1:31 PM  
**To:** egan, patrick  
**Cc:** pizarro, luis; Butler, John  
**Subject:** RE: Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

Hi Pat

Please scroll down to see the citizen inquiry – relating to the linked news story. I would imagine this

would be a state/air issue. Please see if you can provide the appropriate contact. The article is about

Richmond, Calif., but it is on a national news site, so the citizen could be from anywhere.

Thanks  
Mike

Michael H. ("Mike") Frankel  
Communications Coordinator,  
LGBT Diversity Program Manager,  
AFGE Local 3631 Steward  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029  
215-814-2665

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**From:** pizarro, luis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2013 1:04 PM  
**To:** Butler, John  
**Cc:** frankel, michael  
**Subject:** RE: Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

My first thought is that this may be an Air issue, but have no idea where to send it.

I do not think we (at the Region) are in the position to respond to this.

Mike – any advice

Luis A. Pizarro  
Associate Director  
Office of Remediation, LCD  
US EPA Region 3  
215 814 3444

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**From:** Butler, John  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2013 12:39 PM  
**To:** pizarro, luis  
**Subject:** FW: Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

Hi Luis,

Do you know anyone that could respond to this inquiry on crematoria?

Thanks!  
John

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**From:** MJ Webb [mailto:m.j.webb@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2013 7:40 PM

**To:** Butler, John; Rodriguez-Hunt, Magda

**Subject:** Neighbors fear mercury from cremation - US news - Environment | NBC News

EPA: Mr Butler,

Who can help me understand the EPA regulations or lack of them on crematoria? thank you.

melinda

we just don't know enough.

"These things are not properly regulated. There's a scarcity of information on what chemicals they use in the process, and what is actually released."

[http://www.nbcnews.com/id/16656749/ns/us\\_news-environment/t/cremation-pollution-neighbors-nervous/](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/16656749/ns/us_news-environment/t/cremation-pollution-neighbors-nervous/)